proposal to start new 'Axle and Wheel' factory;

(b) whether representations from Vidarbha Industries Association Nagpur have been received to select some suitable site from Vidarbha; and

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to open this factory in Vidarbha?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Sheds at Kalaikunda Station

2127. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no shed on the Kalaikunda railway station (South Eastern Railway) where unloading of cement takes place;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or propose to be taken to provide shed on the said station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As the Goods siding at Kalaikunda is used for handling Block Rakes from which unloading is directly done into the consignee's transport, provision of covered shed is not considered necessary.

(c) Does not arise.

Cancellation of Fast Moving Train from Rangia to Murkong

2128. SHRI BOLIN KULI:
SHRI PROBIN DEKA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the only fast moving train from Rangia to Murkong Selek (Assam) has been cancelled;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the time by which the train is likely to be restored; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINSTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (d) 5713/5714 Guwahati-Rangia-Murkongselek Arunachal Express has been cancelled due to difficult law and order situation in Assam and will be restored on getting security clearance from the State Government of Assam.

[*Translation*]

Students Sent Abroad for Study

2129. SHRI GULAM MOHAMMAD KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria laid down by the Government for sending students abroad for study;

(b) whether the selection of students for the purpose is done by the Government or by the private institution; and

(c the number of students sent abroad for studies during the last three years, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH):(a) to (c). The Ministry of Human Resource Development, Deptt. of Education, deals with scholarships offered by foreign governments under Cultural Exchange Programmes and other bilateral/multilateral Government-to-Government programmes. The Ministry undertakes the selection in cooperation with the host Government in these cases. Besides, some foreign countries of Universities of foundations etc., also offer scholarship to Indian nationals on their own and the students themselves apply directly to them.

The criteria followed by the Ministry for sending students abroad for studies are that the students fulfil the eligibility requirements like age, educational qualification, experience etc , which are laid down by the donor foreign Governments/agencies. The following general norms for selection of candidates for study abroad are adopted.–

1. By and large offers are accepted for Doctoral, Post-Doctoral and specialised studies in order to optimise the benefit to the country. The Ministry of Human Resource Development requires Master's Degree with 60% marks.

2. Students with prolonged stay abroad who have not stayed in India for three years after their return are generally not considered.

3. Selections in respect of the programmes administered by the Ministry of Human Resource Development are made by the Ministry itself through duly constituted Selection Committees under the Chairmanship of a senior officer of this Ministry and consisting of academic experts and representatives of the donor Government/agency. The Medical Council of India have intimated that they used to send students to the erstwhile USSR on scholarship basis after holding a competitive entrance examination/interview was per Memorandum of Understanding reached between the Medical Council of India and USSR Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialised Education.

University Grants Commission have intimated that they also send students abroad for pursuing studies in three languages i.e. French German and Hungarian under the terms of the Cultural Exchange Programmes with these countries. Selection of such students is made by the University Grants Commission with the help of Expect Committees comprising experts in the languages concerned.

Country-wise details of students sent abroad under such programmes administered by the Deptt. of Education, Medical Council of India and University Grants Commission during the last three years are given in the attached Statement.

The Ministry of Welfare Administers National Overseas Scholarships for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes Denotified Nomadic, Semi-Nomadic Tribes, Neo-Budhist etc. students. The eligibility requirements include minimum graduation marks of 60% in some cases and 50% in others, and an age limit of 35 years relaxable by three years. Selection is done by the Ministry of Welfare through a Selection Committee. That Ministry intimate that about 15 students have been sent abroad to pursue studies in the United Kingdom and United States of America during the last three years. They also intimate that Under another scheme, viz., Equity and Merit Scholarship Scheme offered by the Govt. of Australia, six candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have so far been sent to Australia

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	*Name of the Country*	*No. of students yearwise*		
		1989	*1990*	*1991*
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*
1.	Austria	1	2	–
2.	Greece	2	–	–
3.	Portugal	–	–	2
4.	Italy	11	7	8
5.	Norway	7	2	5
6.	Spain	4	–	–
7.	U.S.A.	27	1	3
8.	U.K.	67	65	7
9.	Canada	8	14	21
10.	F.R.G.	12	13	15
11.	Hungary	2	3	1
12.	Czechoslovakia	1	1	1
13.	Yugoslavia	–	1	2
14.	Bulgaria	2	1	1
15.	Mongolia	1	–	–
16.	Poland	–	1	1
17.	Ireland	–	–	2
18.	USSR	72	30	–
19.	Japan	9	11	11
20.	China	12	11	3

Sl. No.	*Name of the Country*	*No. of students yearwise*		
		1989	*1990*	*1991*
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*
21.	Indonesia	1	1	1
22.	Turkey	–	–	2
23.	Newzeland	1	–	–
24.	France	14	4	13

[*English*]

Forest Research Institute in Assam

2130. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a proposal to set up a Forests Research Institute in Assam;

(b) whether the institute has been set up; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Funds for Modernisation of Railways

2131. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY:
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD;

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the railway modernisation plans have been badly affected since the past few years due to financial crunch;

(b) if so, whether the Government has since contemplated any measures to provide financial assistance to railways to meet the needs of its modernisation plans;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the allocations proposed for the Railways during the Eighth Plan Period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Modernisation plans were limited by the availability of resources, but not badly affected.

(b) and (c). Plan allocation for the Railways depends on overall resources that can be mobilised, and the interse priority of different sectors.

(d) Eight Plan has not been finalised.

Anniversary Celebration of Hyderabad city

2132. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: